

Jefferson County Community-Wide Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey

INDIANA UNIVERSITY STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

Jefferson County Community-Wide ACE Survey

This study is approved by Indiana University IRB, study number 12857

ABOUT THIS RESEARCH: You are being asked to participate in a research study. Scientists do research to answer important questions which might help change or improve the way we do things in the future. This consent form will give you information about the study to help you decide whether you want to participate. Please read this form, and ask any questions you have, before agreeing to be in the study.

TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY IS VOLUNTARY: You may choose not to take part in the study or may choose to leave the study at any time. Deciding not to participate, or deciding to leave the study later, will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are entitled and will not affect your relationship with Resilient Jefferson County or Indiana University Southeast.

WHY IS THIS STUDY BEING DONE? The purpose of this study is to assess the prevalence of childhood trauma and its connection to adult outcomes in Jefferson County, Indiana. Research suggests that adverse childhood experiences are strongly related to adult health, mental health, substance abuse, education, and economic outcomes. In order to build a healthy and resilient community, a community-wide ACE survey is necessary to determine baseline information from which to build a trauma-informed community. Resilient Jefferson County seeks to equip residents to effectively respond to adverse childhood experiences (ACE) and work to reduce the pervasiveness of ACEs in the next generation. You were recruited as a possible participant because you are over the age of 18, live in Jefferson County, and have not yet completed a survey. The study is being conducted by Melissa S. Fry, Indiana University Southeast Applied Research and Education Center and students enrolled in Sociology 380 Methods of Social Research. It is funded by Resilient Jefferson County.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN DURING THE STUDY? If you agree to be in the study, you will do the following things: Complete a twenty-five (25) question survey regarding adverse experiences you may have experienced in the first eighteen (18) years of your life (ACE). The first ten (10) questions ask if you have experienced the adversity presented, and allow for a yes or no response. The next five (5) questions ask about adult outcomes that research indicates may be related, in some cases, to exposure to the childhood experiences referenced in questions 1-10. The next ten (10) questions ask for basic demographic information (eg. age, sex, gender, zip code). In total, the survey should take about eight (8) minutes. ACE questions contain sensitive material. You may choose not to answer any question and you may choose to opt out of the study at any time. We ask that you answer all questions honestly, as no identifying information will be attached to your answers. All responses are confidential.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF TAKING PART IN THE STUDY? While participating in the study, the risks, side effects, and/or discomforts include: ACE questions contain sensitive material that may be uncomfortable for some participants and may trigger an emotional response. There is a risk of possible loss of confidentiality. The research team has taken precautionary measures to minimize risks for participants: If you become uncomfortable, you are able to freely exit the

survey at any time. You are also able to skip questions without submitting an answer. Responses are made confidential, and no identifying personal information (or in the case of online completion, no IP address) will be attached to your answers.

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF TAKING PART IN THE STUDY? We don't expect you to receive any direct benefit from taking part in this study, but we hope to learn things that will help local organizations respond to community needs and build resilience among Jefferson County residents.

HOW WILL MY INFORMATION BE PROTECTED? Efforts will be made to keep your personal information confidential. We cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality. Your personal information may be disclosed if required by law. No information which could identify you will be shared in databases in which results may be stored or in publications about this study. Organizations that may inspect and/or copy your research records for quality assurance and data analysis include groups such as the study investigator and his/her research associates, the Indiana University Institutional Review Board or its designees, and state or federal agencies who may need to access the research records (as allowed by law).

WILL I BE PAID FOR PARTICIPATION? You will not be paid for participating in this study.

WHO SHOULD I CALL WITH QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS? For questions about the study, contact the researcher, Melissa S. Fry, at (812) 941-2105. After business hours, you can leave a message on her voice mail or email at frym@ius.edu. Counseling services are available through: Centerstone and LifeSpring Health Systems at these locations:

Centerstone
3008 North Bevcher Dr.
Madison, IN 47250
(800) 344-8802

LifeSpring Health Systems
1405 Bear St.
Madison, IN 47250
(812) 265-4513

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. For questions about your rights as a research participant, to discuss problems, complaints, or concerns about a research study, or to obtain information or to offer input, please contact the IU Human Subjects Office at 800-696-2949 or at irb@iu.edu.